

any part of the King's dominions. If the right of being actually represented in parliament, is constitutionally annexed to freehold estate, the American freeholders can with no more justice be deprived of it, than they may of their freeholds. And the power of dispossessing them of either, cannot, from the nature of the British constitution, (which is formed on the foundation of securing to every individual his right, liberty and property) be lodged with any other person in being, than themselves: The acknowledging them to have a right of being taxed only by their own consent, is yielding them that from which they never can derive the least advantage, while ever that of actually choosing their own representatives, is withheld from them.

The notion of virtual representation, may, for all I know, be consistent enough, while it is confined to Great-Britain only; its inhabitants intimately reside together; the interest and circumstance of those who do not vote for representatives, are the same with those that do; and are equally well known to, and understood by such representatives. It cannot then be imagined, that the virtually represented in Great-Britain, can ever be subject to any imposition, that will not be extended to, and equally affecting to the electors of members of parliament: And tho' certain corporate towns, the East-India company, the body of London merchants, proprietors of public funds, the monied interest, and women, are not respectively as such, actually represented in parliament; yet many of the members of them (women excepted) are intitled to vote for representatives; [10] and if they were not, the influence they, and particularly women (through whose means votes are often obtain'd) must necessarily have, from their intimate acquaintance and connection with the electors, is such as must render the choice in a great measure agreeable to them. But hath the Colonies any of these advantages? They certainly have not: They live above a thousand leagues from Great-Britain; their interest and circumstance are not similar to those of the British inhabitants; nor have they been well considered or understood by the British parliament. The Colonists have suffered many impositions, as may be seen by the several acts of trade which have been borne by them alone, and which not otherwise affected the electors or members of parliament, than as they were obliged to receive the profit arising from them. The Colonists cannot have the least influence either with the electors